Alabama Baptist Historical Society

# MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

# Providence Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

ZION CHURCH, MOBILE COUNTY, ALA.,

October 11th, 12th and 13th, A. D. 1873.

OFFICERS:

ELDER JOSEPH NELSON, MODERATOR.
ELDER A. B. COUCH, CLERK.

MOBILE:
THOMPSON & POWERS, PRINTERS, 32 NORTH WATER STREET.
1873.

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# MINUTES.

1. The eighteenth annual session of the Providence Baptist Association was held with Zion Church, Mobile county, Ala., convening on Saturday, October 11th, 1873, at 2 o'clock P. M.

In consequence of the existence of yellow fever in the city of Mobile, the Moderator of last session, by advertisement in the Mobile Daily Register, postponed the session until further notice, but too late to be known except by a few; and because of sickness among the members of the churches in the city, no delegates from them were in attendance, but delegates from a large number of churches being present, and after sending a messenger to confer with the Moderator of last session and the brethren of the churches in the city, it was thought best to organize and transact the business of the Association. Bro. J. Mitchell, Moderator of last session, came out on Saturday A. M. and made a statement in regard to the announcement postponing the session until further notice, and said that in consequence of sickness in his family he could not remain, and that owing to the prevalence of yellow fever, the brethren in the city could not attend.

At 2 o'clock P. M., the Association was called to order by Elder A. B. Couch, who moved that Elder Joseph Nelson take the chair, which was unanimously carried.

Elder A. B. Couch, Clerk of last session, was in his proper place.

2. The letters from the churches were called for, and read by Brn. I. N. Denham and L. Crabtree, appointed for the purpose, and the names of the Messengers from the Churches enrolled, as follows:

Broad Street—Not represented.

Brook Cedron—Elder Joseph Nelson.

Bay Minette—Not represented.

County Line—Letter, but no Messenger.

Escatawpa—Elder J. H. Rush.

Evans Creek—Letter, but no Messenger.

Fellowship—Letter, but no Messenger.

Mt. Moriah—Not Represented.

Marine Street—Dissolved.

Mt. Pisgah—Not represented.

Oak Grove—Bro. James W. Pendarvis.

Palestine—Brn. Silas Pearce and M. J. Cochran.

Pleasant Valley—Not represented.

Providence—Not represented.

Shell Bank—Brn. Elisha Nelson, H. P. Hanson, John Morrison and A. B. Couch.

St. Francis Street—Not represented.

Spring Hill—Not represented.

Salem—Not represented.

Shiloh—Dissolved.

State Line—Not represented.

Tide Water—Not represented.

Union—Brn. Chas. Long and D. A Fort.

Washington—Not represented.

Whistler—Brn. L. Crabtree, James Tew. J. M. Jackson, M. A. Gaston and B. R. Jackson.

Zion—Brn. I. N. Denham, J. Wooley, W. A. Pollard, R. F. Farnell, T. E. Rowell, J. C. Gibson, Wm. H. Rowell, Jas. Pollard, J. H. Bolton and and R. P. Irvin.

3. Proceeded to elect permanent officers; Brn. H. P. Hanson, B. R. Jackson, D. A. Fort, and R. F. Farnell, acting as tellers, who reported Elder Joseph Nelson elected Moderator, and Elder A. B. Couch re-elected Clerk.

4. Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

5. Appointed a Committee on Preaching, to report instanter, viz: Brn. L. Crabtree, D. A. Fort and the Deacons of Zion Church, who reported as follows:

Elder A. B. Couch to preach the Introductory Sermon to-night (appointed last session) Elder B. R. Jackson to preach the Missionary Sermon to-morrow (Sabbath) at 11 o'clock, followed by Elder J. H. Rush; Elder Jo-

ages 3-6 MISSING



18. Committee on Sabbath Schools reported as follows:

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report that it is a matter of much regret that we find, from the letters of the Churches to the Association, that the progress of this work is not as encouraging as desired by your Committee. Feeling as we do, that the religious instruction of the young is of the greatest importance, and that every possible means should be exerted on the part of the Church, and of every individual member, to have a Sunday School in every Church within the bounds of this Association; and it is the opinion of your Committee that the most effectual way of accomplishing the desired effect is for every parent to set the example before their children.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

H. P. HANSON, Chairman.

Adopted.

19. Committee on Temperance reported as follows:

Your Committee on Temperance beg leave to offer the following as their report:

The evils of intemperance are so numerous and so apparent, that it is unnecessary to say anything in proof thereof, therefore, we would speak more particularly in regard to the best means to be employed to remedy these evils. The Church of Christ is the highest institution on the earth, and the members thereof are represented as the "light of the world, the salt of the earth," and they must "let their light shine," and not cover it up under the dark veil of intemperance. Your Committee would therefore exhort the members of our churches to refrain from the habitual use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and steer clear of all places where they are dealt out by the glass, and thereby keep themselves separate from the world in this particular practice, and we recommend pastors to impress this upon their congregations. We deem it inconsistent with a profession of Christ and Church membership to visit such places, as it must have a bad influence upon themselves and others.

Your Committee is also of the opinion that it is wrong to visit places of intemperate worldly amusements, such as theatres, circuses and dancing parties, as it frequently leads to other intemperate habits, and is in violation of the Scriptural injunction, to "keep yourself unspotted from the world, and to be temperate in all things," and is also in itself a great evil.

Respectfully submitted,

T. E. ROWELL, Chairman.

Adopted.

20. Committee on Finance reported through Bro. H. P. Hanson, Chairman, which was adopted, and ordered that the names of each individual, and the amount pledged by them be printed with the report; and which is as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Sent up by the Churches represented, for Associational purposes, | $ 33 07 |
| Cash collection on Sabbath | 25 00 |
| Pledged by Bro. Elisha Nelson and paid before adjournment | 5 00 |
| Total Cash, | $ 63 05 |

PLEDGES.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| B. R. Jackson | $50 00 | R. F. Farnell | $50 00 |
| H. P. Hanson | 20 00 | Wm. H. Rowell | 20 00 |
| John H. Rush | 20 00 | I. N. Denham | 25 00 |
| Thos. A. Long | 10 00 | J. M. Jackson, | 10 00 |
| D. A. Fort | 10 00 | J. M. McVay | 10 00 |
| Elias Farnell | 10 00 | Joseph Nelson | 10 00 |
| M. A. Gaston | 5 00 | James Pendarvis | 5 00 |
| John Pier | 5 00 | John Stokes | 5 00 |
| J. Jackson | 5 00 | C. Bryant | 4 00 |
| H. M. Broadus | 5 00 | George Lundy | 5 00 |
| J. C. Gibson | 5 00 | Hamberger | 5 00 |
| T. C. Gaston | 5 00 | H. Webb | 5 00 |
| I. R. Bolton | 5 00 | R. P. Irvin | 5 00 |
| James Tew | 10 00 | J. I. Freeland | 10 00 |
| Cyrus Gaston | 10 00 | William Wilson | 10 00 |
| J. N. Curry | 10 00 | G. W. Welch | 5 00 |
| L. Crabtree | 5 00 | James Pollard | 5 00 |
| N. McLean | 5 00 | R. S. Kelly | 5 00 |
| M. Wolf | 5 00 | S. D. Philyard | 5 00 |
| L. Eastment | 5 00 | W. E. Fortner | 5 00 |
| N. Tew | 2 50 | J. L. Kinsey | 1 00 |
| C. Davis | 1 00 | Sister Jackson | 2 00 |
| Sister Baggett | 1 00 | Crabtree | 1 00 |
| Gaston | 1 00 | Simms | 5 00 |
| E. Rowell | 2 00 | H. Gibson | 1 00 |
| Irvin | 1 00 | Webb | 1 00 |
| Pendarvis | 1 60 | Long | 2 00 |
| M. E. Pollard | 1 00 | Reeves | 1 00 |
| B. A. Stringer | 7 00 | Hamberger | 1 00 |
| M. Besonoinett | 2 60 | C. Lundy | 1 00 |
| M. Mallory | 5 00 | E. Bolton | 1 00 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Pledges | $444 50 |
| Total Cash | 63 05 |
| | $507 55 |

All of which is respectfully submitted,

H. P. HANSON, Chairman.

21. Committee on Queries and Requests reported as follows:

We, your Committee on Queries and Requests, beg leave to make the following report:

No Queries have been sent in. We find one Request from Whistler Church, asking that the next session of this body be held with them, and we find that the churches calling for letters last year, which we had hoped would be reconciled by the missionary visiting them, which he failed to do. If they still insist on having them, we recommend these requests be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

R. F. FARNELL, Chairman.

Adopted.

22. On motion by Bro. W. H. Rowell,

*Resolved*, That the present Executive Board be continued, and that the same number of which it is composed be added to it.

23. On motion of Bro. H. P. Hanson,

*Resolved*, That the money pledged on yesterday for the support of the missionary to go to the destitute, be strictly appropriated to that purpose, and all amounts hereafter given by individuals, shall be appropriated as they may direct. Also, that the money sent up by the churches and collected here, shall be appropriated to printing minutes and paying the Clerk.

24. On motion by Elder B. R. Jackson,

*Resolved*, That we elect a missionary to preach to the destitute within the bounds of this Association, before we adjourn.

Whereupon, Bro. I. N. Denham moved that Elder Charles Long be elected by acclamation, and that his salary be six hundred dollars—which was unanimously carried.

25. Elder J. Nelson, Moderator, expressed a desire to reach the Steamer Annie in time to cross over the bay to-day, stating his reasons therefor, which were considered good. Whereupon, Elder A. B. Couch moved that he be granted leave of absence, and that Elder B. R. Jackson fill the chair until the business be completed—which was unanimously carried.

26. On motion by Bro. L. Crabtree,

*Resolved*, That one from each Church be appointed to collect the Pledges and raise funds for the support of the Missionary.

The following brethren were appointed:

| | |
|---|---|
| Broad Street Church, | M. G. Hudson. |
| Brook Cedron, | J. W. Stewart. |
| Bay Minette, | Wm. Wright. |
| County Line, | Isaac Gardner. |
| Escatawpa, | J. H. Rush. |
| Fellowship, | Robert Byrd |
| Mt. Moriah | Thomas Long. |
| Mt. Pisgah, | Albert Davis. |
| Oak Grove, | James Pendarvis. |
| Palestine, | W. J. Cochran. |
| Pleasant Valley, | Wilson Powell. |
| Providence, | Wm. Gray. |
| Shell Banks, | H. P. Hanson. |
| St. Francis Street, | E. A. Shaffer. |
| Spring Hill, | ——— ———. |
| Salem, | John L. Gray. |
| State Line, | A. L. Gray. |
| Tide Water, | S. Bradford. |
| Union, | Noel Turner. |
| Whistler, | James Tew. |
| Zion, | Robt. F. Farnell. |

27. On motion by Bro. I. N. Denham,

*Resolved*, That Bro. Long be instructed to visit, as early as practicable, all the Churches who have asked for letters, and try to reconcile them.

28. In accordance with Resolution No. 22, the following brethren were added to the Executive Board:

H. P. Hanson, Thomas Long, I. N. Denham, Joseph H. Bolton, L. Crabtree, J. M. Jackson, Wm. H. Rowell, T. C. Gaston, S. R. Oliphant, John H. Rush, Wm. Pollard, Robert F. Farnell; and in case the present Board is composed of less than twelve, the last names on this list to be dropped, so as to bring it down to the same number.

29. On motion by Elder A. B. Couch,

*Resolved*, That we deeply sympathize with the citizens of Mobile in in general, and with the brethren of our churches in particular, in their present afflicted condition, and sincerely regret the absence of our former Moderator and the other delegates from the churches in the city, and also the absence of the delegates from the churches who were kept away by the fever in the city.

30. On motion of Elder J. H. Rush,

*Resolved*, That the thanks of this body is due, and hereby tendered to the brethren and friends of Zion Church for the liberal manner in which they have entertained the Association.

31. On motion by Bro. I. N. Denham,

*Resolved*, That the Clerk have five hundred copies of the Minutes printed and distributed, and that he receive twenty dollars for his services.

32. On motion of Elder A. B. Couch,

*Resolved*, That Elder C. Long, Missionary, report quarterly to the Executive Board, including the number of days given to the work, and all other items.

33. On motion by Bro. R. F. Farnell,

*Resolved*, That Bro. Long's year be ten months' actual service.

34. On motion by Bro. I. N. Denham,

*Resolved*, That the Executive Board meet at the office of Gary, Hudson & Co., on the 15th November next.

35. On motion by Bro. I. N. Denham,

*Resolved*, That Bro. H. P. Hanson, Chairman of Finance, be instructed to pay over the money in hand to Bro. A. B. Couch, to pay for printing Minutes and Clerk for services.

36. On motion by Bro. L. Crabtree,

*Resolved*, That the appointment of Brethren to preach the Introductory and Missionary Sermon be laid over until the convening of next session.

37. On motion by Bro. L. Crabtree,

*Resolved*, That the appointment of Committees be laid over until the convening of next session.

38. On motion by Bro. I. N. Denham, adjourned to meet with Whistler Church, on Saturday before the second Sabbath in September, 1874.

Prayer by Elder A. B. Couch.

JOSEPH NELSON, Moderator.

A. B. COUCH, Clerk.

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In consequence of not being able to make up a complete table of Statistics and a Sabbath School and Financial Table, because of the absence of the necessary information from so many of the Churches, it is thought best to leave them out.

A. B. COUCH, Clerk.